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emld. °C for 1 h. The membrane was washed with 1 × PBS for 5 min, and then with TPBS (0.05% Trion X-100/PBS) for 15 min three times. The membrane was reacted with a chemiluminescence reagent (Amersham Inc. ECL) for 1 min, and then, was exposed to an X-ray film for 2 min.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please substitute amended claims 8-14 for pending claims 8-14 and add new claims 15-20 as follows:

8. (Amended) DNA encoding a fluorescent protein comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID No. 1 with at least the mutations of Phe64Leu, Val163Ala, and Ser175Gly.

9. (Amended) DNA encoding a fluorescent protein comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID No. 1 with the three mutations of Phe64Leu, Val163Ala, and Ser175Gly.

10. (Amended) DNA encoding a fluorescent protein comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID No. 1 with at least the mutations of Tyr66His, Tyr145Phe, and Phe64Leu.

11. (Amended) DNA encoding a fluorescent protein comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID No. 1 with at least the mutations of Tyr66His, Tyr145Phe, Phe64Leu, and Leu236Arg.

12. (Amended) DNA encoding a fluorescent protein comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID No. 1 with the four mutations of Tyr66His, Tyr145Phe, Phe64Leu, and Leu236Arg.

13. (Amended) DNA encoding a fluorescent protein comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID No. 1 with at least the mutations of Tyr66His, Tyr145Phe, Phe64Leu, Val163Ala, Ser175Gly and Leu236Arg.

14. (Amended) DNA encoding a fluorescent protein comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID No. 1 with the six mutations of Tyr66His, Tyr145Phe, Phe64Leu, Val163Ala, Ser175Gly and Leu236Arg.

--15. DNA encoding a fluorescent protein comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID No. 1 with at least the mutations of Val163Ala and Ser175Gly.

16. DNA encoding a fluorescent protein comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID No. 1 with at least the mutations of Tyr66His, Tyr145Phe, Val163Ala and Ser175Gly.

17. A method of visually analyzing gene expression or protein localization in a cell comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing a cell transfected with a vector comprising the DNA of any of claims 8, 9 or 15;
- (b) culturing the cells under conditions to express a fluorescent protein encoded by the vector; and
- (c) detecting the presence of the fluorescent protein.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein the cell is a mammalian cell.

19. A method of visually analyzing gene expression or protein localization in a cell comprising the steps of:

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- (a) providing a cell transfected with a vector comprising the DNA of any of claims 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 or 16;
- (b) culturing the cells under conditions to express a fluorescent protein encoded by the vector; and
- (c) detecting the presence of the fluorescent protein.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein the cell is a mammalian cell.--

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